

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended). A device for protecting against electrostatic discharge and electromagnetic influences on electronic components in a housing, comprising:

an I/O shield covering a housing aperture formed in the housing and defined by wall surfaces of the housing;

an element extending through said I/O shield into the housing;
and

a sealing layer disposed between said I/O shield and the housing, said sealing layer sealing said housing aperture and forming an electrical contact with said wall surfaces of said housing aperture, said sealing layer ~~including~~ being formed of readily malleable electrically conductive material.

Claim 2 (original). The device according to claim 1, wherein said element is an electrical terminal or an operating element.

Claim 3 (cancelled).

Claim 4 (original). The device according to claim 1, wherein the housing has exterior wall surfaces, and the electrical contact with said sealing layer is formed at the exterior wall surfaces.

Claim 5 (original). The device according to claim 1, wherein the housing has interior wall surfaces, and the electrical contact with said sealing layer is formed at the interior wall surfaces.

Claims 6-8 (cancelled).

Claim 9 (original). The device according to claim 1, wherein said sealing layer has dimensions exceeding dimensions of said housing aperture.

Claim 10 (original). The device according to claim 1, wherein said I/O shield has a U-shaped form.

Claim 11 (original). The device according to claim 1, wherein said I/O shield has a trough-shaped form.